

Message Text

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PAGE 01 REYKJA 00097 191635Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03
ACDA-12 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06
TRSE-00 DODE-00 H-01 NSC-05 COME-00 DOTE-00
FMC-01 CG-00 DLOS-09 OES-07 /096 W
-----060194 191807Z /44

P 191435Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8061
INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
CINCLANT PRIORITY
COMICEDEFOR

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THE HAGUE AND BRUSSELS PASS FUNSETH

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MARR, EWWT, IC
SUBJECT: NATO BASE: SEA TRANSPORT BETWEEN US AND ICELAND

REF: REYKJAVIK 0037

1. DURING CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER EINAR AGUSTSSON THIS MORN-
ING ON ANOTHER SUBJECT, FOREIGN MINISTER REFERRED TO RIVALRY
BETWEEN EIMSKIP AND A NEW SHIPPING GROUP TO OBTAIN CONTRACT FOR
CARGO MOVEMENTS TO AND FROM NATO BASE. AGUSTSSON CONFIRMED
(REFTEL) THAT POLICY OF GOI HAS BEEN ONE OF NEUTRALITY AS BETWEEN
CONTENDING ICELANDIC COMPANIES. HOWEVER, HE SAID PRIME MINISTER
HALLGRIMSSON APPEARED TO BE HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS ON UBJECT
AND LEANING IN DIRECTION OF EIMSKIP. FOREIGN MINISTER ASKED
WHETHER ANY VIEWS GOI MIGHT HAVE ON SUBJECT COULD APPROPRIATELY
BE CONVEYED TO COUNTRY DIRECTOR FUNSETH DURING HIS FORTHCOMING
VISIT TO REYKJAVIK.

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2. IN REPLY I ASSURED THE FOREIGN MINISTER THAT FUNSETH WOULD
BE WILLING TO LISTEN TO ANYTHING THE FORMER MIGHT HAVE
TO SAY. HOWEVER, I HOPED GOI UNDERSTOOD THAT WHILE WE
WISHED TO BE CERTAIN WE KNEW ITS VIEWS ON THIS MATTER
US LAWS AND REGULATIONS WITH RESPECT TO SHIPPING ARRANGE-
MENTS WOULD HAVE TO BE FOLLOWED. FOREIGN MINISTER SAID

HE UNDERSTOOD THIS BUT THAT HE MIGHT WANT TO DISCUSS
SUBJECT WITH FUNSETH.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE PROVIDE EMBASSY FOR ITS
BACKGROUND AS WELL AS COUNTRY DIRECTOR FUNSETH'S UPDATE
ON WHERE THIS PROBLEM NOW STANDS IN WASHINGTON AND ANY
GUIDANCE ON LINE FUNSETH SHOULD TAKE IF FOREIGN MINISTER
RAISES SUBJECT.
BLAKE

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Message Attributes

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